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Department
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LITTLE ROCK - Arkansas Department of Career Education Director William L. "Bill" Walker, Jr., announced today that Arkansas Rehabilitation Services (ARS) Commissioner Robert Treviño will move into the position of ARS associate director for program planning, development and evaluation effective Oct. 15, 2012.

Treviño, who has served as commissioner since Oct. 1, 2005, said that he requested the transfer in order to spend more time assisting with his wife's recovery from a brain hemorrhage and stroke. He said he had discussed his desire to step down from the commissioner position with Director Walker and with the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA), the federal agency that is responsible for oversight of state vocational rehabilitation agencies.

"Commissioner Treviño has provided strong leadership for ARS, and I know he will continue to be a strong advocate for ARS and for Arkansans with disabilities," Director Walker said. "I understand and respect his desire to be more available to his family, and I am happy that he will remain a member of my team."

In his seven years as commissioner, Treviño oversaw the major renovations at the Arkansas Career Training Institute (ACTI), as well as an overhaul of the education and training programs offered at ACTI. Under his leadership, ARS expanded its services to individuals with disabilities, established a high school transition program and implemented various other initiatives.

"I am proud of the work ARS has done, and I consider it a great privilege to be able to work for an agency that everyday improves the quality of life for individuals with disabilities," said Treviño. "The work that ARS does is my passion, and I look forward to continuing my work while also being able to devote more time to my family."

Director Walker said he will name an interim commissioner soon. The interim commissioner will serve until a permanent replacement is found.

Arkansas Rehabilitation Services is a division of the Department of Career Education. ARS's mission is to provide services that will lead to meaningful employment and independence for Arkansans with disabilities.